

the students at Belmond-Klemme Junior and Senior High School.

IN HONOR OF CRISTINA ROSE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cristina Rose, who today is receiving the prestigious Crystal Eagle Award at Coro Southern California's 35th Annual Awards Gala.

Cristina is co-founder and senior counsel at Rose & Kindel, one of the premier public affairs firms in California. But more importantly, she has a long and successful career in public service, communications and public affairs in California, stretching back to her days of service under Governors Ronald Reagan and Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Cristina is a board member of the American Council of Young Political Leaders and the California Historical Society. She also serves on the Board of Governors of the HOPE PAC, on the Board of Directors of the Literacy Network of L.A., and on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Los Angeles Y.M.C.A. She is also a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy, the Trusteeship and the International Women's Forum.

She is former vice president of the city of Los Angeles Environmental Quality Board, served on UCLA Governmental Affairs Steering Committee, as a member of the Board of Trustees of the California Journal Foundation and on the Editorial Advisory Board of the California Journal, and was a founding board member of the California Channel.

The Crystal Eagle Award being presented to Cristina is given each year to four leaders "whose involvement in public life has made an extraordinary contribution to our region." Cristina is a perfect example of how we can make a difference in our communities.

Coro is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to prepare leaders to deal creatively, ethically and effectively with the challenges of democratic governance. Its competitive fellowship programs give these leaders the tools to make responsible decisions in the face of change, ambiguity and differing points of view. Coro embodies that belief, and its many highly esteemed graduates have demonstrated that an individual can truly make a significant difference in society.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I would like to extend our congratulations to Cristina on winning this well-deserved award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, on the evening of Tuesday, May 18, 2010, I was unavoidably delayed and not present to vote on the following bills:

H.R. 2288—Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Improvement Act (Rep. SALAZAR—Natural Resources) rollcall No. 273.

H.R. 4614—Katie Sepich Enhanced DNA Collection Act of 2010 (Rep. TEAGUE—Judiciary) rollcall No. 274.

H. Res. 1327—Honoring the life, achievements, and contributions of Floyd Dominy (Rep. SMITH (NE)—Natural Resources) rollcall No. 275.

In the event I was present, I would have voted "aye" on all of them.

RECOGNIZING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALAN GINSBURG

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jewish American Heritage Month and to recognize an extraordinary businessman and philanthropist from Central Florida who is making a distinguished contribution to the Jewish community in the 8th district of Florida, Alan Ginsburg.

For over 45 years, Mr. Alan Ginsburg has been involved in developing real estate projects such as, single family and multi-family housing projects with HUD, LIHTC, and FHA in several States including the great State of Florida. His career began years ago at a local sporting goods store in Grand Rapids, MI where he did not make enough money to pay for parking and lunch. Determined to be a self starter, Mr. Ginsburg, quit his job to become a self-employed entrepreneur. In 1981, he founded CED Construction Companies specializing in building multi-family communities.

Mr. Ginsburg is a role model for generosity and selflessness not only with his money, but with his time and dedication. He serves as the Director of Greater Orlando Jewish Welfare Federation and was an active member of National Young Leadership Cabinet for the United Jewish Appeal. Mr. Alan Ginsburg's community activism is not just within the Jewish Community, but throughout Central Florida. He has served as a trustee for Rollins College, where he gave \$5 million for a scholarship endowment at Rollins College, and serves as a trustee for the Orlando Arts Foundation.

During the past few years, Mr. Ginsburg has donated millions of dollars to Central Florida organizations. In 2007, The Alan Ginsburg Family Foundation gave Florida Hospital \$20 million, the largest donation in its history, for its new \$255 million patient tower. The 15 story, 440 bed Ginsburg Tower opened in December 2008 and features one of the largest emergency departments and cardiac catheterization labs in the country. At his request, the tower's lobby was designed to be welcoming to people of all faiths and features a memorial to Ginsburg's late wife, Harriet, and son, Jeffrey.

Mr. Ginsburg's philanthropic values are a reflection of his philosophy in life, "to never forget the importance of the community in which you are creating new development and to give back as much and as often as possible." This philosophy corresponds with the Jewish concept of tikkun olam, repairing the world. Jews are not only responsible for helping to create a better world for themselves, but for the entire society as a whole. Mr. Ginsburg's community service has accomplished just that.

Madam Speaker, during Jewish American Heritage Month, it is my privilege to recognize this dedicated community member whose devotion to our community can be shown through his great contributions not only to the Jewish community, but the larger Florida community as well. Alan Ginsburg has given so much to the people of Florida and I applaud his accomplishments and service in our Central Florida community and our State of Florida.

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 966 that will designate September as National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month and raise awareness around addressing childhood obesity.

As this public health crisis continues to grow, we can point to a host of factors that are complicating efforts to reduce childhood obesity such as: prominent advertising of unhealthy foods, the popularity of big-portion meals that are high in calories and fat accompanied with sugary beverages, spending more time in front of the television and sedentary electronic games and fewer school physical education programs. Childhood obesity has more than tripled in the past 30 years. A recent CDC report found that about 14 percent of low-income, pre-school-aged children in the Virgin Islands are obese, which is also the U.S. average.

Childhood obesity disproportionately affects low-income and minority children. Obesity rates are higher in African American, Native American, and Mexican American adolescents than in White adolescents. Type 2 diabetes is disproportionately seen in Hispanic, Native American, and African American adolescents.

Children that live in low-income neighborhoods often do not have access to recreational facilities, parks, or even sidewalks to walk on, limiting virtually any possibility of being physically active.

They often don't have access to grocery stores to buy fruits and vegetables; rather gathering their nutritional content from fast food restaurants and convenience stores. These food deserts are prevalent in poor communities all over the country.

As a physician I have also seen the adult consequences of childhood obesity: overweight and obese children grow up to be overweight or obese adults at increased risk for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, asthma, and some cancers—all of which are increasing exponentially, especially in communities of color.

The time to intervene is now! We must continue to champion legislation and initiatives that will reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity. So on behalf of our Nation's youth, I support this resolution that will bring awareness to this epidemic in hopes of securing brighter, healthier futures for children all across the country.